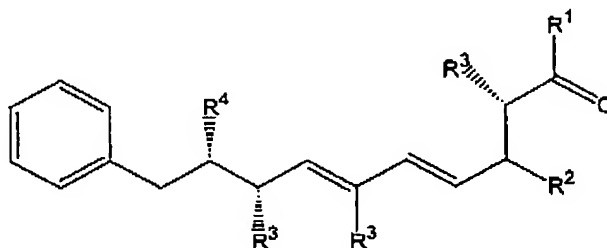


Application No. 10/070,302
 Filed: May 1, 2002
 TC Art Unit: 1641
 Confirmation No.: 2837

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A compound comprising one or more polypeptides providing a binding site of a monoclonal, polyclonal or recombinant antibody or a functionally active derivative or part thereof, wherein said compound is prepared using the group of formula (I) as a hapten, and said compound is capable of specifically binding to a compound having a structure comprising the group of formula (I) represented as



(I)

~~and which is part of a toxin derived from a cyanobacterium,~~
 wherein group R¹ represents a halogen atom, -OSO₃, -OR' or -NR'₂ and group R² represents hydrogen, (C₁-C₄)alkyl, (C₁-C₄)alkoxy, (C₁-C₄)acyl, (C₁-C₄)acylamino, (C₁-C₄)carboxyaminoacyl, glutamidyl, or 2-aminopropionamidyl, and wherein

the groups R³ which may be the same or different are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and (C₁-C₄)alkyl,

group R⁴ represents (C₁-C₄)alkoxy,

the phenyl group may be substituted or unsubstituted, and further wherein the groups R' represent hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted (C₁-C₄)alkyl or (C₁-C₄)acyl.

2. (Canceled)

Application No. 10/070,302

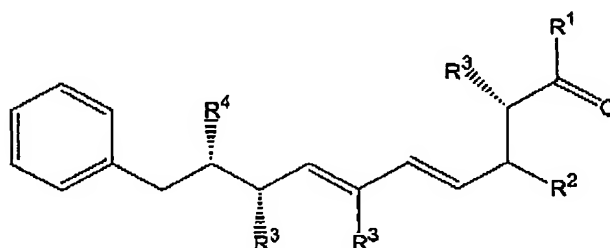
Filed: May 1, 2002

TC Art Unit: 1641

Confirmation No.: 2837

3. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1, wherein the groups R^3 each represent methyl and group R^4 represents methoxy.

4. (Currently Amended) A compound comprising one or more polypeptides providing a binding site of a monoclonal, polyclonal or recombinant antibody or a functionally active derivative or part thereof, wherein said compound is prepared using the group of formula (I) as a hapten, and said compound is capable of specifically binding to a compound having a structure comprising the group of formula (I) represented as



(I)

~~and which is part of a toxin derived from a cyanobacterium,~~ wherein group R^1 represents acylamino and group R^2 represents $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{acyl}$; or group R^1 represents glycyl or D-alanyl and group R^2 represents acetyl; or group R^1 represents $-\text{NH}_2$ and group R^2 represents glutamidyl or 2-aminopropionamidyl, and wherein

the groups R^3 which may be the same or different are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl}$,

group R^4 represents $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkoxy}$,

the phenyl group may be substituted or unsubstituted, and further wherein the groups R' represent hydrogen, substituted or unsubstituted $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{alkyl}$ or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4)\text{acyl}$.

Application No. 10/070,302
Filed: May 1, 2002
TC Art Unit: 1641
Confirmation No.: 2837

5. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 4, wherein the groups R^3 each represent methyl and group R^4 represents methoxy.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The compound according to claim 1 or claim 4 which is a polyclonal, monoclonal or recombinant antibody or a functionally active derivative or fragment thereof.

9. (Previously Presented) A method for preparation of the compound according to claim 1 or claim 4, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) providing a compound containing a group represented by formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 4;

(b) coupling the compound of step (a) to an immunogenic carrier to form a conjugate;

(c) immunizing an animal with the conjugate obtained in step (b); and

(d) isolating the animal's blood, blood serum and/or spleenocytes.

10. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 9, wherein the immunogenic carrier is a polymeric substance.

11. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the polymeric substance is selected from the group consisting

Application No. 10/070,302
Filed: May 1, 2002
TC Art Unit: 1641
Confirmation No.: 2837

of polyethyleneglycol, polypeptides, proteins, polysaccharides and plastic supports.

12. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 11, wherein the substance is a protein and said protein is selected from bovine serum albumin, ovalbumin, cationised bovine serum albumin or horseradish peroxidase.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously Presented) A diagnostic kit containing the compound according to claim 1 or claim 4.

15. (Previously Presented) An affinity matrix containing the compound according to claim 1 or claim 4 coupled to a polymeric resin.

16. (Previously Presented) A method for detecting a compound containing a group represented by formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 4, said method comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a compound according to claim 1 or claim 4;
- (b) mixing a second compound suspected of containing a group represented by formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 4 to form a mixture; and
- (c) performing an assay that detects binding of the compound according to claim 1 or claim 4 to the second compound.

17. (Previously Presented) A method for concentrating a compound containing a group represented by formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or claim 4 from a fluid or for substantially decreasing the

Application No. 10/070,302

Filed: May 1, 2002

TC Art Unit: 1641

Confirmation No.: 2837

amount of a compound containing the group represented by formula (I) in a fluid comprising the steps of:

- (a) preparing the compound according to claim 1 or claim 4,
- (b) coupling the compound obtained in step (a) to a polymeric matrix, and
- (c) contacting the fluid with the polymeric matrix obtained in step (b).

18. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 17, wherein the fluid is hemodialysis water, drinking water or water derived from rivers, lakes or oceans.

19-28 (Canceled)